

The weekly newsletter from School District U-46

May 22, 2024

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Calendar

Stay tuned for upcoming events with our District website calendar available here.

- Saturday, May 25: High School Graduation Ceremonies. Details here.
- Monday, May 27: Memorial Day. No classes for students, offices closed.
- Thursday, May 30: Last day of classes for U-46 students. Details here.
- Friday, May 31: Registration deadline for the 2024-25 school year. Details here.

#U46Classof2024

School District U-46 will be celebrating more than 2,700 members of the #U46Classof2024 on Saturday, May 25, at the NOW Arena. Five graduation ceremonies will be held to recognize students from Bartlett, Larkin, Streamwood, South Elgin, and Elgin high schools as they mark the end of one chapter and the start of the next.



The U-46 Board of Education, Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Lela Majstorovic, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Dr. Annette Acevedo, and many other District administrators and principals will join families and friends for the ceremonies.

Among the graduates will be students who participated in the District's award-winning Dual Language program, earned the state Seal of Biliteracy, were named winners of the Superintendent's Scholarship, took part in the full-time Dual Credit program at Elgin Community College, and graduated in the top two percent of their class.

Read more about this impressive group of graduates <u>here</u>. Visit our <u>Class of 2024 page</u> for the ceremony schedule and links to watch the ceremonies via streaming, as well as a <u>Graduation</u> <u>Guide from the NOW Arena</u>.

On Graduation Day, make sure to follow #U46Classof2024 on the District's <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram accounts</u> to see highlights from this special day!

Last Day of Classes

The last day of classes for students is Thursday, May 30. Students will have classes every weekday until May 30 except on Monday, May 27, when U-46 schools and offices will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday. Please remember that it is extremely important that our students are in school and on time for class every day until the end of the school year.

Resources for families without permanent homes

As U-46 is busy encouraging our currently enrolled families to register their students for the 2024-25 school year, it's also important for us to share some information with you about the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The act is a federal law intended to remove barriers to learning for homeless students. The ultimate goal is to provide homeless students with the same educational opportunities as those who are housed.

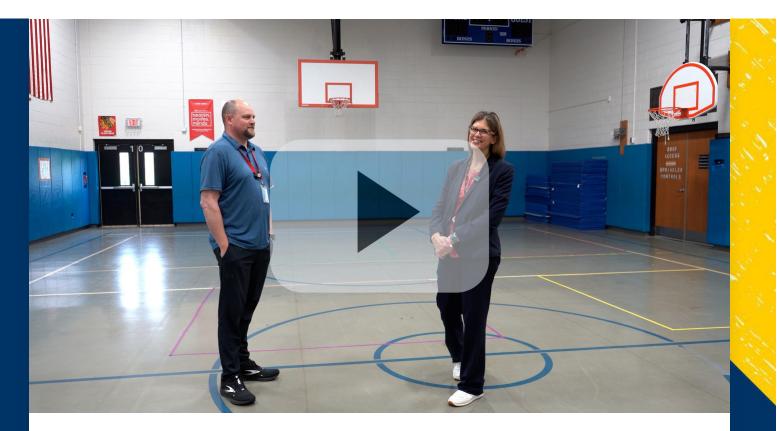
Children who are eligible for services under the McKinney-Vento Act are those who "lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence." In general, children or youth living in motels, transitional housing, shelters, the streets, cars, abandoned buildings, and other inadequate accommodations are considered eligible.

In U-46, students who are eligible for McKinney-Vento services are served by Project Access.

You can learn more about the McKinney-Vento Act, and the rights that it provides homeless children, in our Project Access section <u>here</u>. You'll also find contact information there if you have questions or think your family might qualify for McKinney-Vento services.

Johnson on the Job

In the video series "Johnson on the Job," Superintendent Johnson visits U-46 employees to learn more about their daily work and the important part they play in the District. Next, she spends time with Scott Park, a gym teacher at Lords Park Elementary School. Click here to watch.



Open Elgin Museum Crawl

The U-46 Planetarium will be a stop on the Open Elgin Museum Crawl being held Saturday, May 25, from noon to 4 p.m. Participants will board a trolley to discover the rich tapestry of Elgin's history at five sites, which will all offer free admission.



In addition to the Planetarium, the trolleys will make stops at the Elgin History Museum, Elgin Public Museum, Elgin Fire Barn No. 5 Museum, and the Gail Borden Public Library, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary. Learn more by visiting elginchamber.com/openelgin24.

SUN Bucks

Beginning this summer, the state of Illinois is participating in the nationwide Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer EBT) Program. Summer EBT, also known as SUN Bucks, will provide grocery-buying benefits to eligible families during the summer break when students are not receiving meals at school.



More information can be found here and here from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

We encourage those who believe they are eligible to fill out the 2023-24 Fee Waiver form, available in English and Spanish here, as soon as possible. Households that already qualify for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Income Eligible Medicaid, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), or have children who are homeless or in foster care, are not required to fill out the Fee Waiver Form. No action is required for households that have already filled out the 2023-24 Fee Waiver form.

Please also note that during the summer months, families in need of meals can call 800-359-2163, text "FOOD" (or "COMIDA") to 304-304, or view the <u>USDA online map</u> to find nearby meal sites open to all children and youth age 18 and younger

#U46FirstDayReady

Students entering kindergarten, 6th, 9th, or 12th grade must meet certain <u>health requirements</u> listed on our Health Services website. Forms were mailed to the homes of those students the week of May 13.

Health requirements are due on or before the first day of school, Aug. 13, 2024. Students will NOT be permitted to attend class if they do NOT have these requirements on file by the first day of school.

Schedules and teacher assignments are tentatively being released on July 16. Students who are fully registered and have submitted the required health documents will be able to view their schedule or teacher assignment.

There are a number of ways families can submit health paperwork over the summer. To view these, and to get tips on how to convert paperwork into an electronic .pdf format, look to the "Health Requirements" section on <u>u-46.org/firstdayready</u>.

If you have questions or concerns about health requirements, please contact our Health Services team by using <u>Let's Talk</u>.



More Resources

Weekly Message from Dr. Johnson

Each week, Superintendent Dr. Suzanne Johnson shares a message with U-46 employees and community members. You can read the latest message here.



Care Solace

Care Solace is a complimentary and confidential service provided by School District U-46 to help locate a provider for mental health care or substance use treatment. It's available to U-46 students. staff, and their family members. Learn more here.





Board of Education

The Board of Education meetings are streamed on the District's YouTube channel and via Zoom. Written highlights from the meetings, as well as presentations delivered to the Board, can be found here.



We're Hiring

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? School District U-46 offers a number of rewarding opportunities for educators and support staff.



Community

Visit our U-46 Online Backpack to find information on community events, activities, and resources for our U-46 families and students.







